

proxy from former Senator Nathan B. Scott, of West Virginia, is reported to have replied:

" ' We can't afford to let them have it. We might be able to spare two votes now, but we must look ahead to the time when we will have to give them something. We can't do it now."

When the ninth district contest was settled by a vote of 38 to 15 in favor of the Taft forces, National Committee-man Mulvane, an ardent Taft man of Kansas, said to a man friendly to Colonel Eoosevelt:

"Now you fellows have got an inkling of what you are going to get. Are you going to waste our time going over all these contests?"

"What do you fellows intend to do V Mulvane was asked. "You know you surely can't elect Taft?"

To which Mulvane is said to have responded:

"We can't elect Taft, but we are going to hold on to this organization, and when we get back four years from now we will have it and not those d • insurgents."

At the conclusion of the committee's work, it was announced officially that 92 contests had been investigated and decided; there had been no roll-calls in 74 decisions; roll-calls in 16; unanimous vote in 4, and 2 contests had been abandoned. The net result was that 233 of the contested delegates were given to Taft and 6 to Eoosevelt. The daily records of the proceedings of the committee were published in the newspapers of the country under such headlines as the "Steam Boiler Continues Its Work." "The¹ Steam Boiler Goes on Crushing Out Boosevelt

Hopes."

"The Steam Boiler Gives Forty-Two More Votes
to Taft—
None to Boosevelt."

When the convention came together it was
predicted
almost or quite universally by the newspaper
correspond-
ents in attendance that Taft's nomination had
been assured
by the action of the National Committee, since
the "Steam
Boiler" would pursue its course as inflexibly in
the conven-